

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT BOARD
100 N Park, Rm 201
Helena MT 59620

Board Legislative Committee Minutes
Tuesday, February 10, 2009
1:30 pm

Committee Members: Terry Smith, Chair
Dianna Porter (via telephone)
Mr. John Paull was not in attendance.

Staff: Scott Miller, Renae Deadmond, Kim Flatow, Ursula
Hatfield, and Barbara Quinn, MPERA staff.

Other Attendees: No public present

Approval of Legislative Committee Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the open meeting of February 3, 2009 were presented.

Motion: Mr. Terry Smith moved to approve the minutes of the February 3, 2009 PERB Legislative Committee Meeting.

Second: Ms. Dianna Porter

No public comment.

Vote: 2/0

Public Comment – No public comment.

Executive Director's Report

Board Legislation – Status/Sponsors

HB12 Working Retiree Bill

Mr. Miller stated the amendment is different than discussed during last week's Legislative Committee meeting. The amendment now reflects local governments will pay employer contributions on all working retirees starting July 1, 2013. State employer contributions for working retirees will start July 1, 2009. The amendment also shows the state's portion for local governments will start July 1, 2009. Slightly over half of working retirees are in local governments.

HB109 General Revisions Bill

It passed third reading on the House floor with a 66/32 vote.

HB170 Qualification Bill

It passed third reading on the House floor with a 76/23 vote on Saturday, February 7.

Review of Introduced Bills

House Bills

HB17, HB32, HB33, HB91, HB124, HB124, HB142, and HB266 have been tabled in committee.

HB31 is currently in limbo. This bill table vote failed 9/9 and is not up for a new hearing.

HB155 passed the House and has been transmitted to the Senate.

HB393 (LC1018)

This bill will extend the City of Dillon's time to pay liabilities after joining police retirement system. Mr. Miller spoke with Mr. Gilbert requesting their actuary report. The actuary used a 2% multiplier when they should have used 2.5%.

Senate Bills

SB20

This is Senator Jent's bill to purpose statement for MAPA. This bill's hearing was held Friday, February 6.

SB123

This bill revises MAPA regarding amendment of rationale, sponsored by Senator Squires. Its hearing was held, Friday, February 6.

SB295

SB295 allows legislators to retire from public employment while serving in the Legislature. This bill was tabled Monday, February 9.

SB352

This allows city or town authority to impose levy to fund firefighters' retirement. This bill is sponsored by Senator Brueggeman. The hearing is scheduled, Wednesday, February 11. This is related to the chapter 18, The Relief Association, which is not administered by MPERA.

SB372 and SB373

These bills revise firefighter laws. These are sponsored by Senator Gary Perry. One bill addresses the age limit to join FURS. This would eliminate the age 34 requirement. A hearing is scheduled, Thursday, February 12, before the Business, Labor and Economic Affairs Committee on SB373. SB372's hearing scheduled, Monday, February 9, was cancelled.

SR2

Senate Resolution No. 2 is the bill where the Senate confirms the Governor's board appointees. A hearing is scheduled, Monday, February 16.

Review List of Un-introduced Bills

An updated listing of introduced and un-introduced retirement bill requests was provided.

LC1534

LC1534 is a Sudan divestment act. In the past we have opposed divestitures. Staff wants the Board to invest in what would give the best return.

LC1877

LC1877 adjusts the early retirement age; Rep. Joe Bayleat is the sponsor. New hires after July 1, 2009 would have to work until the age of 65 or take an early retirement.

LC2126

This bill would revise state retirement policy and law. Representative Don Roberts is the sponsor. Representative Wayne Stahl wants to reform state retirement by having all new

employees elect DC only. Ms. Minnehan and Ms. Flatow spoke with Rep. Roberts. He may use this placeholder bill to study the Teachers Retirement System. They are looking into getting funds for the study. Staff presented Rep. Stahl with documentation the reasons not to have a DC only system.

Actuary Study Concerning Funding for Legislation

A funding solution letter has been drafted and mailed Friday, January 30. Staff has not heard any response to the letter.

Other Potential Legislation

Board Legislative Committee Meeting Schedule

Weekly meetings are scheduled each Tuesday at 1:30 pm through the legislative session at 100 N Park Ave, Helena, MT 59620.

Meeting adjourned 2:15 pm by Mr. Terry Smith, Chairman.